Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.

Washington, D. C. 20554

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC. 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 3, 2003

News Media contacts: Jordan Goldstein at (202) 418-2000 Lisa Zaina at (202) 418-2300

News media Information 202 / 418-0500

Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov

TTY 202 / 418-2555

ftp.fcc.gov

## PRESS STATEMENT OF COMMISSIONERS MICHAEL J. COPPS AND JONATHAN S. ADELSTEIN ON THE FEDERAL-STATE JOINT BOARD ON UNIVERSAL SERVICE

Commissioners Michael J. Copps and Jonathan S. Adelstein announced today that they have developed a rotation schedule for service on the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. Commissioner Adelstein will join the Joint Board in 2003 and Commissioner Copps will rejoin next year.

The Commissioners stated: "We understand that, notwithstanding the critical importance that both of us place on universal service, as minority members on this Commission we are traditionally allotted only one of the three statutory slots on this Joint Board. We therefore have established a rotation plan for membership on the Board. We intend to coordinate closely on these issues to ensure that the decisions of the Commission and the Joint Board adhere closely to the clear Congressional directive to preserve and advance universal service. All Americans, no matter who they are or where they live, should have access to quality services at affordable rates."